

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 /240 W

----- 004270

R 141725Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6156

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS: TROPICAL
PRODUCTS

1. RODERICK ABBOTT, EC COMMISSION DIVISION CHIEF
FOR GATT AFFAIRS GAVE US PRELIMINARY EC VIEWS ON MTN
CONSIDERATION OF TROPICAL PRODUCTS DURING A DEC. 13
CALL BY STEVE LANDE (STR) AND MISSION OFFICER.

2. ABBOTT ENUMERATED A NUMBER OF IDEAS:
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(A) TO EFFECTIVELY ASSIST LDC EXPORTS THE TROPICAL

PRODUCTS COMMITTEE WOULD NEED TO STUDY NOT ONLY
TARIFFS, NTB'S AND OTHER ACCESS QUESTIONS, BUT IT
SHOULD ALSO LOOK AT GENERAL LEVELS AND STABILITY
OF EXPORT EARNINGS; (B) NEGOTIATIONS ON TROPICAL
PRODUCTS IN THE MTN AND EC/YAOUNDE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD
HAVE TO PROCEED IN STEP WITH EACH OTHER.

2. ABBOTT STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT THE EC WILL
DEMONSTRATE AT THE FIRST TNC MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT THAT IT
IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DEVISE TARIFF MEASURES TO COMPENSATE EC AS-
SOCIATES STATES FOR LOSS OF PREFERENCE IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS
AS THE EC REDUCES IT TARIFFS.

3. ABBOTT BELIEVES THAT THE MTN SHOULD TAKE
ACCOUNT OF WORK ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS IN OTHER BODIES,
SUCH AS THE UNCTAD COMMODITY GROUPS.

4. HE SAID THAT THE EC AND US WERE IN ACCORD
THAT THE MOST PROMISING CANDIDATES FOR INITIAL STUDY
IN THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP ARE COFFEE, COCOA,
BANANAS, TEA AND SPICES.

5. ABBOTT SUGGESTED THAT THE US AND EC SHOULD
REMAIN IN CONTACT ON LDC QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE MTN TO PREVENT
NEEDLESS CONFRONTATION. GREENWALD

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30 JUN 2005

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